

Message from Member Company President/CEO or Safety Leader (Adapt as email, letter or breakroom poster)

Dear fellow (name of company) employees:

In just a few weeks, Minnesota law will require us to put down our phones and go hands-free while driving – and we'll all be safer as a result. Today one-fourth of crashes and one-fifth of fatalities involve distracted driving. (Optional statement for members in greater Minnesota areas: This is not a metro area only issue, 35 percent of crashes occur in greater Minnesota – 75 percent of these crashes are fatalities.)

We at (name of company) care about your safety and that of your family. That's why I encourage you to become familiar with this new law now and begin to adapt your own cell phone use so you're ready to comply. Remember, this new law applies to all drivers over 18, anytime, anywhere – that includes whether you're driving on company business, or are using a company phone.

To assist you, we've attached/enclosed/posted here, information sheets that outline how cell phones can and cannot be used when a vehicle is in traffic. Take a moment to review this information and learn how your own phone can be made hands-free compatible. I also encourage you to take these materials home to share with your family; there's even a special guide for the young drivers under age 18 in your life who will be subject to stricter requirements.

(If you will hold educational meetings, insert information here)

Even more resources are available on the Minnesota Safety Council's <u>Hands-Free Resource Page</u> web page. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety's <u>Hands-Free Page</u> also has a variety of educational tools available for Minnesotans.

Don't wait for August 1. Start now to make your phone hands-free and help make Minnesota's roads safer.

Sincerely,

(Name and title of company representative)